



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshiaki KOMATSU

Group Art Unit: 2178

Application No.: 09/820,006

Examiner: G. VAUGHN

Filed: March 29, 2001

Docket No.: 108630

For: INFORMATION RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 7, 2005 Office Action, reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Office Action indicates that claims 11 and 19 include allowable subject matter.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10, 12-18 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,717,879 to Moran et al. ("Moran") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,438,523 to Oberteuffer et al. ("Oberteuffer"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Moran does not disclose an information recording and reproducing apparatus including a handheld playback selecting device "that outputs a playback start signal of the sound data with the switch in a first position and a playback end signal of the sound data with